"What's the Idea?"

Intro. - The expression used by the college ~~chap~~. student.

1. Dr. Coats's remarks about western slang.
   - "Twenty-three!"
   - "Whats the use"
   - "I should worry"
   - "Safety First"
   - "Have a heart"

the student's exclamation upon being surprised by a visit from parents.

"Whats the idea?" — a question we hear frequently, applied to everything, half in fun—

I propose to make of it a serious question for us to consider tonight.

I. The Question implies that everything has an idea behind it.

1. Back of every human product an idea
   - a—house—car—machine—piano—church—electric light—telephone—book—school—tools.
   - b—Apart from the idea these things are meaningless to us
2. Seeking the idea back of everything has developed mans intelligence. What's the idea back of the world? of natural forces?

of living things? of man himself?

Man's efforts to find out have created his religions, his philosophies & his science.

II. What's the idea of the world in which we live?

1. Some say it just happened.

Ask the workman of an automobile factory "What's the idea?" He answers, "Oh, it just happened. There was a lot of iron round here loose and it just happened to come together and now there's a factory."

The world producing machine is far more complex & wonderful than automobiles – living, thinking men. Did it just happen? What's the idea?

2. The idea of it that Jesus gives – a home where God's children are to live together in peace & happiness & love.

"Thy Kingdom come –
All men are brothers, working together in good-will & kindness & love.

Paul "God has made all men of one blood to dwell together." Big Idea.

III. Is the idea of Jesus true?

1. Seemingly not.
2. Insofar as men have worked the idea of Jesus it has been proven true.

   "Wherever men have quit killing each other and tried to save, quit hating each other and tried to love, quit cheating each other & tried to be just, the world has been a lot better & happier place to live in.

3. The ideas of Empire & Nationalism, of commercial Supremacy, of ecclesiastical despotism, of special privelege in every form have all failed.
4. Why not give the Jesus idea full swing – give it a thoro trial?

Democracy cannot triumph apart from the idea of Jesus – a humanity of justice, liberty, & equal opportunity to all

IV Another Question – "What is the idea behind your own life?

Is it a plan + a purpose, or just hit + miss?

Should not the idea back of the individual fit him into the idea back of the whole thing – connect him up to his fellow men?

The idea of brotherhood helps one to be fair + unselfish to others – making of him a co-builder of the Kingdom of God.

If there is no idea back of me connecting me to the whole, then I am a dead one – If the ideas that form my intelligence are dead ones then I am not alive.

a dismembered limb is dead

a disconnected individual."